

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/825,553

Examiner

Courtney Thomas

Applicant(s)

AKAGI, EIICHI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to original filing dated: 04/14/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12/13/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-30 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. **As per claim 1 and dependent claims 2-14**, the Examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious a mammography system comprising: a mammography apparatus, wherein the mammography apparatus comprises a communication section for transmitting radiography performance information to a controller, the radiography performance information including first key information for relating the radiography performance information and radiographing order information to each other; wherein the controller further comprises a controlling section for relating the radiography performance information and the radiographing order information based on the first key information included in the radiography performance information transmitted from the mammography apparatus and the second key information included in the stored radiographing order information, as recited in independent claim 1.
4. **As per claims 15, 29 and 30 and dependent claim 16**, the Examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious a mammography system (and corresponding method) comprising a mammography apparatus, wherein the mammography apparatus comprises a communication section for relating radiography performance information to read mamma image, the radiography performance information including first key information for relating the radiography performance information and radiographing order information and for transmitting the related radiography performance information and the related mamma image to a controller; wherein the controller further comprises a controlling section for relating the mamma

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image, the radiographing order information and the radiography performance information to one another based on the first key information included in the radiography performance information transmitted from the mammography apparatus and the second key information included in the stored radiographing order information, as recited in independent claims 15, 29 and 30.

5. **As per claim 17 and dependent claims 18-28**, the Examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious a method for managing information in a mammography system comprising a mammography apparatus, a reading apparatus and a controller, the controller being connected the mammography apparatus and the reading apparatus, the method comprising: transmitting radiography performance information including first key information from the mammography apparatus to the controller, the first key information for relating the radiography performance information and radiographing order information to each other; storing radiographing order information including second key information in a storage section of the controller, the second key information for relating the radiography performance information and the radiographing order information; and relating the radiography performance information and the radiographing order information to each other based on the first key information included in the radiography storing the performance information transmitted from the mammography apparatus and the second key information included in the stored radiographing order information, in the controller, as recited in independent claim 17.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. **U.S. Patent Application Publications 2004/0086164 to Moriyama et al. and 2004/0240624 to Shiibashi et al.** disclose radiography systems comprising a radiographic unit (110; 5 respectively), a reading unit (120; 3 respectively) and a controller (140; 6, respectively). The aforementioned references fail to disclose or make obvious a mammography system including a mammography apparatus comprising a communication section and controller for relating first key information relating radiography performance information and radiography order information, as claimed in instant application 10/825,553.

8. **U.S. Patent Application Publication 2005/0213702 to Akagi** is co-pending application 11/077860 and is recognized as Applicant's own work and not available as a prior art under 35 USC 102 or 103.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney Thomas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2496. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (9 am - 5 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (571) 272 2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Courtney Thomas *CT*
Examiner
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DAVID V. BRUCE
PRIMARY EXAMINER